

**Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology Board**

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**STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY AND AUDIOLOGY BOARD  
Department of Consumer Affairs  
Medical Board of California  
1424 Howe Avenue  
Greg Gorges Conference Room "F"  
Sacramento, CA 95825  
May 10, 2002  
SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY  
SCOPE OF PRACTICE COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

**Committee Members Present**

Jim Till, Ph.D., Chairperson  
Sherry Washington, M.A.  
Bruce Gerratt, Ph.D.

**Committee Members Absent**

Paul Donald, M.D.  
Vivian Shannon, M.A.

**Board Members Present**

Alison Grimes, M.A.  
Rebecca Binge, M.A.  
Marcia Raggio, Ph.D.

**Staff Present**

Annemarie Del Mugnaio, Executive Officer  
Candace Raney, Staff Analyst  
Lori Newman, Staff Analyst

George Ritter, Board Counsel

**Guests Present**

Robert Powell, California Speech-Language Hearing Association  
Rebecca Leonard, Speech-Language Pathologist, UC Davis Medical Center

## **I. Call to Order**

Chairperson Till called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

## **II. Introductions**

Those present introduced themselves.

## **III. Legislation – SB 1379 Endoscopy Legislation As Amended April 18, 2002**

Ms. Del Mugnaio presented the April 18, 2002 amendments to SB 1379 that included language requiring indirect physician and surgeon supervision of a speech-language pathologist passing a flexible endoscope; the Board to adopt regulations to approve the use of additional instrumental procedures with specifics regarding education, training, experience, and appropriate settings; and the Board to adopt regulations that identify the appropriate settings in which speech-language pathologists may engage in endoscopic procedures by requiring written facility protocols for emergency medical back-up procedures.

Ms. Washington expressed concern regarding the degree of difficulty involved in adopting regulations that provide for appropriate settings where endoscopy may be performed.

Ms. Del Mugnaio stated that the regulation development discussions should be reserved for future task force meetings pending the status of the bill. She further stated that interested professionals would be invited to serve on the task force and assist the Board in crafting facility regulations.

The committee voted to recommend that the Board send a letter of support to the assembly policy committees addressing the recent amendments.

M/S/C: Washington/Gerratt

## **IV. Legal Analysis of Speech-Language Pathologists Performing “Suctioning”**

The Committee discussed a legal analysis prepared by legal counsel, George Ritter, regarding the issue of speech-language pathologists performing deep suctioning.

Mr. Till explained that Mr. Ritter concluded in his analysis that, at present, deep suctioning is not within the scope of practice of a speech-language pathologist.

The committee discussed the possibility of re-addressing this issue, pending the outcome of SB 1379, as the amendments to the enabling statute included in the bill may provide the authority the Board needs to adopt implementing regulations relative to deep suctioning.

The committee voted to direct the Executive Officer to include the matter for discussion on a future agenda after the status of SB 1379 is known.

M/S/C: Gerratt/Washington

**V. Review of McGuire Program for Recovering Stutterers and Discussion of Potential for Unlicensed Activity**

Ms. Del Mugnaio explained that the McGuire Program of Nevada has submitted documentation for the Board's review to determine whether courses offered by this program would be in violation of any California laws and/or regulations or constitute the practice of speech-language pathology.

Ms. Del Mugnaio stated that the instructors that facilitate these conferences are not licensed individuals but rather recovering stutterers.

The committee reviewed the materials provided and determined that additional information is necessary to formulate an informed, responsible decision.

Mr. Till expressed concern regarding the program's potential impact on consumers.

The committee voted to direct the Executive Officer to seek the assistance of an expert practitioner to gather information on the program and to prepare a report to the committee for consideration.

M/S/C: Washington/Gerratt

Chairperson Till adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

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Annemarie Del Mugnaio, Executive Officer